



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

however, he established for these strange beings a distinct sub-kingdom, the Mesozoa. It has been the general opinion, however, that they are degraded Platyelminth worms.

After an elaborate study of different species of this group, Professor Whitman considers their reproduction, embracing the phenomena of transition from the rhombogenic to the nematogenic condition, a comparison of the Dicyemidæ with the Orthonectidæ, and a general survey of their evolutionary cycle, so far as at present known. He then examines the development of the vermiform embryo, and the origin of the germ-cells, with remarks on endogenous cell-formation. Finally he discusses the systematic affinities of the Dicyemids. Whitman sees "no reasons for doubting the general opinion that they are Platyhelminths degraded by parasitism. Whether they and their allies, the Orthonectidæ, have descended from ancestors represented now by such forms as *Dinophilus* (Metschnikoff), or from the Trematoda (Leuckart), is a question which further investigations must decide," also remarking that "when we find an animal in the form of a simple sack, filled with reproductive elements, secured by position against enemies, supplied with food in abundance and combining parasitism with immobility, we have strong reasons for believing that the simplicity of its structure is more or less the result of the luxurious conditions of life which it enjoys, even if its development furnishes no positive evidence of degeneration."

VERRILL'S CATALOGUE OF NEW ENGLAND MARINE MOLLUSKS.¹—This is intended to include all the mollusca now known to inhabit the New England region that are not included in Binney's edition of Gould's *Invertebrata of Massachusetts*, published in 1870. The illustrations are noteworthy, not only from the beauty and evident accuracy of the drawings which have been made by Mr. Emerton, but from the perfection and cheapness of cost of the photo-lithographic work.

BARRANDE'S SILURIAN ACEPHALOUS MOLLUSKS.²—In a thick octavo volume with ten plates, M. Barrande has given the results of his exhaustive studies of the genera of Silurian Acephala of Bohemia, of the vertical distribution of the genera and species, their variations and the specific connections established between the Bohemian forms and those of other countries.

BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY. —With the purchase of the Hall collection of New York fossils, and the accumulation or deposit of other material, and the accession of working scientists to its force, the American Museum

¹*Catalogue of Marine Mollusca added to the Fauna of New England during the past ten years.* By A. E. VERRILL. (From the Transactions of the Connecticut Academy, Vol. v. Part 2.) New Haven, April to July, 1882. 8vo, 5 plates.

²*Acephales. Etudes locales et comparatives. Extraits du système Silurien du Centre de la Bohême.* Vol. VI. Acéphalés. Par JOACHIM BARRANDE. Prague et Paris, 1881. 8vo, p. 536.